

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 12065 300717Z

16

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 OMB-01 AID-05 /085 W

----- 045420

R 300641Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 534

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 12065

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: PORTUGUESE TIMOR

1. FROM TALKING WITH AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR WOOLCOTT
SEPT 29, I HAVE IMPRESSION PORTUGUESE TIMOR PROBLEM HAS
REACHED IMPASSE WITH NO CLEAR SOLUTION IN SIGHT.

2. NEW PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT HAS INFORMED AUSTRALIAN
AMBASSADOR LISBON THAT THEY ARE PREPARED RESTART TALKS
WITH ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE OF INCORPORATION INTO INDONESIA.
GOP PRESUMABLY HAS ALSO INFORMED GOI AMBASSADOR LISBON,
BUT HE HAS NOT CHOSEN REPORT FACT. GOP CHARGE JAKARTA
HAS HEARD NOTHING. AS CONSEQUENCE, GOI OFFICIALS, WHO
FEEL PORTUGAL HAS BEEN "PLAYING GAMES" PROFOUNDLY
SKEPTICAL OF AUSTRALIAN REPORT. AT AUSTRALIAN URGING
GOI HAS AGREED SOUND OUT PORTUGUESE IN LISBON, BUT WITHOUT
GREAT HOPES THAT ANYTHING WILL EMERGE.

3. GOI SKEPTICISM INCREASED BY SCHEDULED ARRIVAL
PORTUGUESE WARSHIP AT DILI OCTOBER 2. GOI FEARS IT WILL
REMOVE GOVERNOR AND "OTHER WHITE OFFICIALS" AS FINAL
GESTURE IN WASHING HANDS OF PROBLEM.

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4. WHILE IMPATIENCE OF GOI MILITARY MOUNTS, PRESIDENT SUHARTO STANDS FIRM AGAINST ANY OVERT GOI MILITARY ACTION, INCLUDING RETALIATION FOR RECENT FRETELIN SHELLING OF BORDER TOWN.

5. ALTHOUGH FRETELIN INCREASINGLY IN CONTROL, GOI WILL NOT DEAL WITH FRETELIN AND CONTINUES TO REGARD INDEPENDENCE UNDER FRETELIN AS UNACCEPTABLE SOLUTION. NEWSOM

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